

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. INS(1) Nietleben - 15 May to 3 June 1950

- 32 aircraft were stationed at the field. 27 were radial-engine biplanes and 5 radial-engine high-wing monoplanes, in appearance similar to the "Fieseler Storch".
- Aircraft of both types carried out flights under all weather conditions. Although flying activity was considerable, no particular schedule or system was apparent.
- Flying personnel were accommodated in the Provinzial Irrenanstalt. Technical personnel were quartered in 10 tents erected near the runway. Flight control was also operated from a tent.
- On 17 May, between 9:30 and 10:30 A.M. 60 officers and 200 enlisted men arrived in 32 courier-type aircraft. The enlisted men were between 22 and 28 years of age and wore blue shoulder boards with SAF insignia.

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- \_\_\_\_\_ trucks left the airfield for Halle \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ The drivers wore blue shoulder boards with black piping.

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- On 3 June all aircraft and SAF personnel left the airfield. Between 7:30 and 8:00 A.M., 21 radial-engine biplanes and 4 radial-engine high-wing monoplanes took off in formations of two and three aircraft and flew north. Simultaneously, the tents in the runway area were struck and the equipment in these loaded on to trucks. Fire-fighting equipment, beds and chairs were seen. Vehicles were lined up in convoy and left Halle on the road to the Autobahn.

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2. Brandis - 24 June 1950

- The Brandis airfield has accommodations for between six and eight hundred men and has three hangars which can accommodate up to about 120 aircraft. The present garrison is estimated at between three and four hundred men.

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- b. Soldiers wearing light blue shoulder boards with black piping with flying insignia, officers wearing gold shoulder boards with light blue piping with flying insignia and officers wearing new type uniforms with silver wings on the right breast were observed at the airfield.
- c. Four MIG-15 jet aircraft were observed standing at the eastern end of the runway in front of the center hangar. Similar aircraft could be observed inside the open doors of the hangars.
- d. A new building, possibly to be used for storage purposes, has been constructed east of the Polenz-Machern road. The work on extending the runway to the west appears to have been completed.
- e. In the southwest corner of the airfield there were a number of detonations at short intervals. These could have been caused by hand grenades or by cannon firing.
- f. Two trucks were observed on the road between Gerichshain and Machern. One [redacted], was loaded with five aircraft engines. The truck was a six-cylinder type and was driven by a German with three other civilians also on board. The second [redacted] was loaded with five aircraft transmissions (Getriebe) and was driven by a German. Both vehicles came from the direction of Leipzig. [redacted]

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## 3. Cottbus - 1 to 28 June 1950

- a. Twin-engined aircraft (PE-2's) and biplanes were no longer observed at the airfield. [redacted] these planes, together with their crews, had moved from Cottbus on 1 June. Twenty-eight of the PE-2s [redacted] were transferred to Drewitz Airfield.
- b. Progress on the new runway as observed on 28 June was as follows: 70 to 80 centimeters depth of earth had been removed from each side of the concrete runway. Layers of coarse gravel and fine sand were then laid down, which were in turn covered with a layer of vegetable mould. Grass was sown after the strips had been stamped down. The actual width of the widened runway is thus not visible.
- c. [redacted] the new runway, which was due to be completed 1 October 1950, is now scheduled to be finished 1 September 1950. The Bau-Union-Süd. Cottbus, has been asked by the Soviet authorities to accelerate the work in progress. [redacted]

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## 4. Dessau - 26 June 1950

- a. Twenty-MIG-15's, One YAK-17, fifteen LA-7s or 9s and two radial-engine biplanes were observed at the Dessau airfield.
- b. The field possesses one taxi strip and one runway. The runway, which runs in an east-west direction, is between 1600 and 1800 meters long and approximately 40 meters wide. All the hangars have been destroyed. No barracks were observed. Two office blocks on the Dessau-Alten road, near the southern fringe of the airfield, were occupied by Soviet Air Force personnel.
- c. Two trucks [redacted] were seen on the northern fringe of the airfield. They were loaded with sand and were being driven by soldiers wearing blue shoulder boards with black piping. [redacted]

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## 5. Grossenhain - late June, early July 1950

- a. The burying of a fuel tank in the middle of the southwest quarter of the airfield has been completed and another tank is now being buried on the northern boundary between the wooden watch tower and the road on the western side.
- b. On 3 July, for the first time, night flying lighting equipment was carefully observed. It consisted of eight small searchlights distributed four in a

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line on each side of the west end of the east-west runway and at right angles to it. The lights are approximately fifty centimeters in diameter and are fixed on a fork on top of a single upright. The overall height is approximately two meters. A small, covered two-wheel trailer stood in front of one of the rows of lights; it may be a dynamo or another searchlight. On 12 June a large searchlight, approximately one meter in diameter, had been seen mounted on a six-wheel truck and may work in conjunction with this one. [ ]

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## 6. Elstal - 8 July 1950

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Between 5:30 and 6:40 P.M., forty IL-10s were observed on the airfield. Ten were on the south edge of the field and had covers on, while the thirty others were parked on the northern edge. [ ]

[ ] No flying took place during the period of observation. [ ]

## 7. Schönwalde - 10 July 1950

- a. On 10 July 1950 a long empty goods train entered the railway siding to the airfield. It left the airfield again shortly after 7:00 P.M. and was loaded as follows: There were nine closed-in freight cars. One of the doors of one of these cars was open and two soldiers could be seen sitting on a large new crate. There were twenty-eight flat cars loaded with twenty three-axled trucks, which were covered with tarpaulins, and ten AA guns. The guns were mounted on four-wheeled rubber-tired carriages. The length of the barrels was approximately two or two and one half meters. They were covered with tarpaulins but it was possible to estimate the caliber at between eight and twelve cm. 50X1-HUM

- b. From 20 June to 10 July the [ ] vehicles were seen either entering or leaving the airfield:

[ ] truck, driver wearing plain blue shoulder boards.  
 [ ] bowser, driver wearing blue shoulder boards with black piping.  
 [ ] truck, driver wearing black shoulder boards with red piping.  
 [ ] truck, driver wearing black shoulder boards with red piping  
 [ ] truck, " " " " " " " " 50X1-HUM  
 [ ] truck, driver wearing plain blue shoulder boards.  
 [ ] truck, driver wearing black shoulder boards with red piping.  
 [ ] truck, " " " " " " " "  
 [ ] truck, " " " " " " " "  
 [ ] car, " " " " " " " "

## 8. Strausberg - 10 July 1950

- a. Between 11:00 A.M. and noon, approximately 40 PE-2s and 2 LI-2s were observed at the airfield. There was no flying by the PE-2s. One of the LI-2s took off at approximately 11:30 A.M. and flew away in a westerly direction. The PE-2 aircraft were covered with tarpaulins.
- b. The work which has been taking place on the southern part of the airfield has come to an end. There has been no sign of any runway construction and it appears that the work was merely to level the field. The steam roller and other equipment previously observed are no longer there. 50X1-HUM
- c. Vehicle [ ] carrying eight soldiers wearing plain blue shoulder boards, drove to the field. [ ] 50X1-HUM

## 9. Wittenberg - Early July 1950

- a. The Bruckenkopf Kaserne, south of the Elbe bridge and on the west side of the Halle road is occupied by SAF personnel, comprising young officers, non-coms and privates. The former German peace-time capacity of the caserne was one engineer battalion, but no estimate of the present Russian occupation force was made [ ] The soldiers wore sky-blue shoulder boards, some with wings. 50X1-HUM
- b. An emergency landing field adjoins the caserne.
- c. Rifle practice and motor transport maintenance were observed.

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d. There was daily flying activity except for a few days' bad weather. Biplanes and monoplanes stationed on the emergency landing field were in the air, as well as jet planes which came from the direction of Dessau/Jüterbog and flew over the town.

e. The following vehicle [redacted] were observed:

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[redacted]  
truck, load not recognized  
truck carrying enlisted men.  
truck carrying two car engines  
jeep carrying a major  
truck carrying boxes of vegetables  
truck, load not recognized  
truck carrying enlisted men.

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(1) [redacted] Comment: This may stand for "Luftnachrichten Schule"

(2) [redacted] Comment: The army communications exercise, which had taken place in the area between 8 May and 3 June 1950, came to a close, and all Soviet Soviet army troops connected with it had left by 3 June 1950.

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